

The background image shows a large cargo ship from a high-angle perspective, sailing on a dark, choppy sea. The ship's deck is visible, with several large, reddish-brown cargo holds. The horizon is visible in the distance, and the sky is filled with heavy, dark clouds, suggesting a storm or late afternoon light. The overall mood is serious and dramatic.

# **MARITIME SECURITY**

## **The Singaporean Experience**

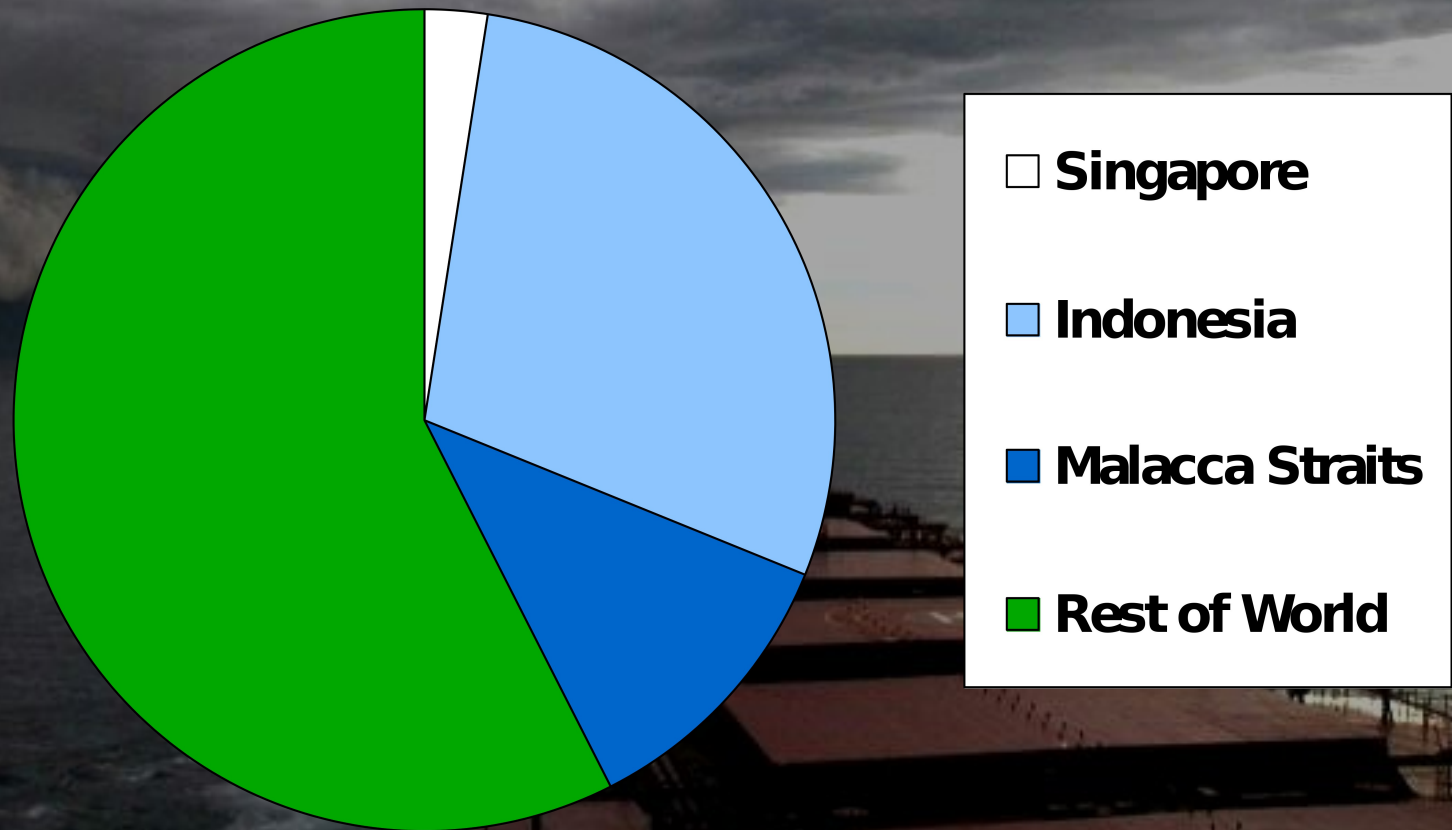
Catherine Zara Raymond

# Singapore: A Maritime Hub





# Southeast Asia: A Piracy Hotspot



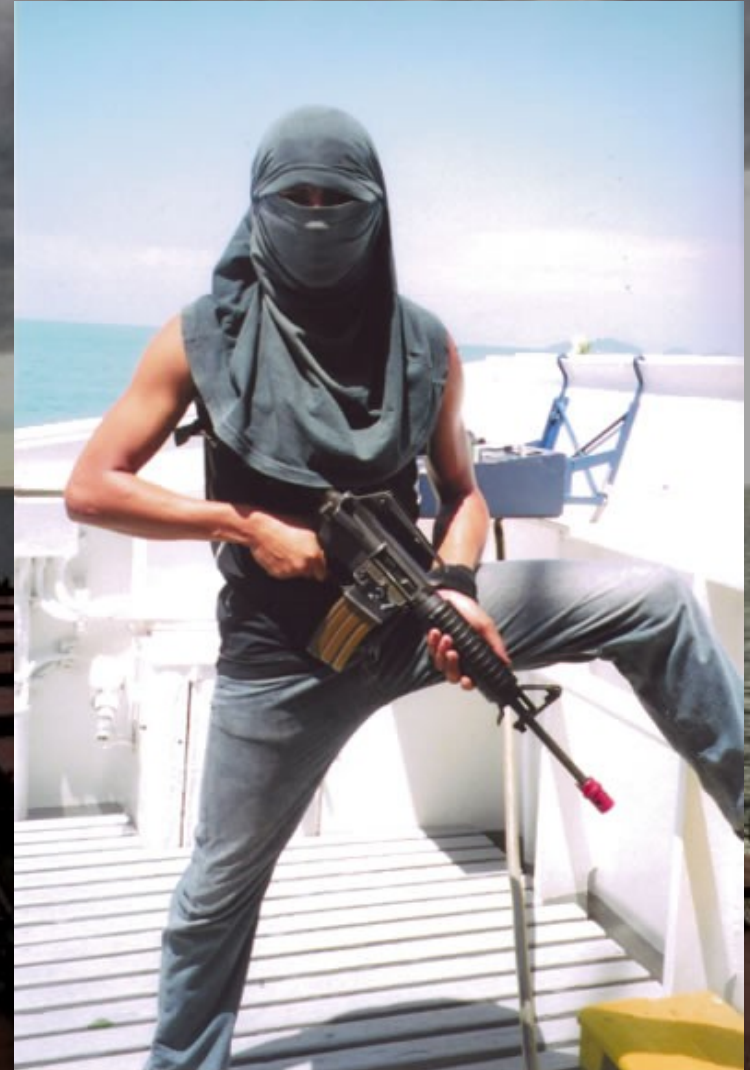
**2004 IMB  
Data**

# Piracy: What?

- **Harbour & anchorage attacks:** Opportunistic boarding of a vessel in harbour/berth.
- **Sea-robbery:** The ship is boarded while underway. Cash and valuables stolen.
- **Hijacking:** Vessel is seized for the cargo and/or the vessel itself.
- **Kidnap-for-ransom:** Crewmembers taken hostage and held for ransom.

# Piracy: Who?

- **Small-scale criminals**
- **Criminal syndicates**
- **Terrorist groups**





# Equipment

- Weapons have included: Knives, rocket launchers, AK47 and M16 rifles.
- In a typical attack the most common weapons are still knives and guns.



# The Terrorist Threat



# The Singaporean Way

## Prevent-Protect-Respond

**Permanent Secretary for  
Defence**

**Maritime Security  
Task Force**

**Republic of Singapore  
Navy**

**Police Coast Guard**

**Maritime & Port  
Authority**

**Immigration &  
Checkpoints  
Authority**



# Situation Awareness

- Installation of new radar.
- Launch of SURPIC.
- 'Eye in the Sky' plan begins.
- Installation of AIS on all vessels >300GRT
- Installation of HARTS on all vessels <300GRT.



# Flexible & Calibrated Capabilities

- **Accompanying Sea Security Teams have been created.**
- **Also known as ASSeT.**
- **Task: Neutralize piracy/terrorism threat.**





# Credible Presence & Deterrence

- Naval base defence system in place.
- Force protection provided to visiting foreign warships.
- Security improved at sea checkpoints.
- Sea-patrols increased.
- High-profile exercises conducted.



# Speed and Responsiveness

- Very little response time available.
- Launch of STAR maritime unit.



- Plans in future to employ air assets e.g. helicopters and unmanned air vehicles.



# Sustainability

- **New multi-crew concept implemented in May 2004 for RSN patrol vessels.**
- **Each patrol vessel now has two sets of crew onboard.**
- **24/7 security operations achieved.**



# Engagement & Cooperation

- **Maritime Security Task Force coordinates interests of stakeholders to achieve integrated or networked security approach.**
- **Multinational cooperation: Indo-Sin Coordinated Patrols, Trilateral Coordinated Patrol, 'Eye in the Sky' plan, ReCAAP.**



# Recommendations & Conclusions

- Singapore has implemented a comprehensive and highly successful maritime security strategy. Can it be used as a 'best practice' model?
- 'User' states must begin to contribute to maritime security in international waterways.
- SUA Convention & ReCAAP should be signed.
- Long-term solutions need to be found which address the root causes of piracy.